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PSYCHOLOGY OF ADDICTION

Student is Awarded Fulbright to Pursue PhD in Psychology of Drug Addiction

Graduate student Jaclyn Dell’s upbringing inspired her to pursue research in drug addiction. “My father passed away from alcoholism and my husband and I have a residential treatment center for drug addiction,” said Dell. “I always knew doing something with drug addiction was my thing, I just didn’t know if I would address it through social work or counseling or something else.”

Now Dell has been awarded the prestigious Fulbright Scholarship to pursue PhD studies on the psychology of drug addiction. She will begin her studies at the University of Birmingham in the UK this fall, where she will use brain imaging to identify the mechanisms of addiction to substances such as cigarettes and alcohol. She hopes results from her research will guide innovative addiction treatment. READ MORE
BALANCING BUDGETS

Financial Literacy Program Teaches Students to Balance their Budget while Living on their Own

A financial literacy program is giving college students a greater grasp of money management as they learn to live on their own. Through one-on-one coaching, class presentations and group workshops, the Advising Financial Literacy Objectives and Training Program, or AFLOAT, provides students educational guidance on everything from personal savings to debt management. It has the ambitious mission of instilling sound money management within the student body so they can achieve their financial goals during college and for a lifetime. READ MORE

THE ART OF ACTING

Short & Sweet Theatre Week Brings Professional Thespians to Campus

The University of South Florida St. Petersburg hosted its first ever Short & Sweet Theatre Week from April 8 to 11. Featuring seven performances, the week-long event showcased improvised comedy, cabaret, poetry and modern dance works written and performed by local and professional artists.

In conjunction with the performances, a series of workshops took place between participating actors and the university’s English department, in which actors attended select English classes and provided a thespian perspective on the professors’ syllabi. READ MORE

DIVERSE STEM
New Program to Help STEM Educators Reach Culturally Diverse Students

Professors at the College of Education are building the foundation for a new master’s degree aimed at helping teachers trained in science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) better connect with culturally diverse students.

Their efforts were recently rewarded with a $75,000 National Science Foundation Noyce grant, which they will use to identify the curriculum necessary to develop a one-year Masters of Arts degree in Culturally Responsive STEM Instruction in grades 6-12. READ MORE

OCEAN & HUMAN HEALTH

Joint Institute Unites Medical and Marine Scientists to Improve Health of Gulf Coastal Populations

As red tide devastated marine life and closed beaches on the Florida Gulf Coast, some experienced the impact from the massive algal bloom by way of respiratory ailments and emergency room visits. This is just one of many examples of how the environmental well-being of oceans can impact the health of human populations.

This intricate connection was the theme of the Ocean and Human Health Workshop, which brought together scientists and health officials to discuss the latest issues involving the Gulf of Mexico and how to coordinate data across the health-marine divide to better prepare coastal populations. READ MORE

FREE TAX PREP

As Tax Day Nears, Accounting Students Offer Free Tax Prep to Pinellas County Residents

For the past twelve years, accounting students at the University of South Florida St. Petersburg have helped individuals and families navigate the complexities of filing taxes while boosting their resume through the IRS VITA program.
Short for Volunteer Income Tax Assistance, VITA provides students with relevant training in tax preparation services. In return, the USFSP students provide free income tax preparation and assistance to low- and middle-income families in Pinellas County, generating around $1 million in tax credit refunds each year. READ MORE

CALLING ALL CYCLISTS

Inaugural Bike Day Event Promotes Cycling On and Off Campus

May is National Bicycle Month, but on Thursday, April 11 USF St. Petersburg hosted its inaugural Bike Day, a campus event to celebrate and promote cycling in the city. Bike Day brought together local bicycling advocates for bike-themed demonstrations on things like bike safety, maintenance and a pedaling-friendly master plan for Pinellas County. A few hundred students stopped by to participate on their way through campus. READ MORE

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Stoneman Douglas Shooting Survivor Brings Message to USF St. Pete

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